



# MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM MONTHLY AVERAGES FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001

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Medical Care  
Statistics Section

## **ABSTRACT**

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of users per 100 eligibles, and cost per user for each county.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 2000-2001.



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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Table 1**

Statewide, an average of 5,226,284 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 2000-2001. The Medi-Cal population reflected 15.0 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Tulare County, 27.1 percent of the population was eligible, while in Marin County, only 4.4 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (41 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during FY 2000-2001.

In Los Angeles County, an average of 1,988,924 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 20.3 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 38.1 percent of the statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only four counties: Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino and Orange.

### **Table 2**

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for fee-for-service Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 66.7 percent in FY 2000-2001.

Forty-eight California counties had user rates of 50 percent or more in FY 2000-2001 for fee-for-service.

Alpine County, whose eligible population averaged 191 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 43.5 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$568.49. Sierra County's cost per user of \$996.73 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was Alpine County at \$292.86.

In twelve counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the statewide average. Four counties had rates 25 percent or more above the statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services, acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

## **DATA QUALIFICATIONS**

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments reported in the Paid Claims System, by Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded from this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Partnership HealthPlan - Solano County was effective May 1, 1994 (formerly the Solano Partnership Health Plan). Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996. Santa Cruz now has a new name: Central Coast Alliance for Health-Santa Cruz. The Partnership Health Plan - Napa County was effective March 1, 1998. Monterey County became a COHS effective October 1, 1999. Its plan name is Central Coast Alliance for Health-Monterey. The most recent is Yolo County, which began in March 2001. Its name is Partnership Health Plan of California -Yolo.

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services, which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 426,308 persons per month during FY 2000-2001.

It should be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (HCP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. Not included are the Health Care Plans in Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Placer, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tulare and Yolo County. The Statewide HCP enrollment averaged 2,046,526 persons per month during FY 2000-2001.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994, in Sacramento and July 1, 1998, in San Diego. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County and San Diego County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 reflect the exclusion of Managed Care Plans. The eight COHS counties are excluded entirely.

**TABLE 1**  
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES  
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION  
FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001

COUNTY	01-Jan-01 POPULATION	MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES/1/ (INCLUDING MANAGED CARE PLANS)	ELIGIBLES PER 100 POPULATION
STATEWIDE	34,818,430	5,226,284	15.0
Alameda	1,479,100	183,566	12.4
Alpine	1,220	192	15.7
Amador	35,400	2,551	7.2
Butte	205,800	39,080	19.0
Calaveras	41,100	5,002	12.2
Colusa	19,200	3,508	18.3
Contra Costa	972,100	85,439	8.8
Del Norte	28,100	6,235	22.2
El Dorado	159,700	10,514	6.6
Fresno	823,900	217,139	26.4
Glenn	26,800	5,029	18.8
Humboldt	127,800	22,226	17.4
Imperial	150,900	38,236	25.3
Inyo	18,150	2,428	13.4
Kern	685,800	141,856	20.7
Kings	136,100	22,999	16.9
Lake	59,300	12,899	21.8
Lassen	35,900	4,238	11.8
Los Angeles	9,802,800	1,988,924	20.3
Madera	129,400	26,020	20.1
Marin	250,400	11,139	4.4
Mariposa	17,200	1,850	10.8
Mendocino	87,300	15,380	17.6
Merced	216,700	57,540	26.6
Modoc	9,600	1,931	20.1
Mono	13,350	731	5.5
Monterey	410,800	54,156	13.2
Napa	126,200	8,879	7.0
Nevada	94,000	6,278	6.7
Orange	2,925,700	260,771	8.9
Placer	257,500	14,783	5.7
Plumas	21,100	2,521	11.9
Riverside	1,609,400	200,398	12.5
Sacramento	1,258,600	240,155	19.1
San Benito	55,200	4,847	8.8
San Bernardino	1,764,300	279,302	15.8
San Diego	2,883,600	294,080	10.2
San Francisco	793,700	110,256	13.9
San Joaquin	583,700	107,725	18.5
San Luis Obispo	252,100	22,761	9.0
San Mateo	720,100	42,425	5.9
Santa Barbara	408,900	48,510	11.9
Santa Clara	1,723,700	146,434	8.5
Santa Cruz	259,800	24,483	9.4
Shasta	165,700	31,260	18.9
Sierra	3,560	330	9.3
Siskiyou	44,300	8,329	18.8
Solano	403,400	41,856	10.4
Sonoma	468,800	33,888	7.2
Stanislaus	459,900	87,390	19.0
Sutter	80,900	13,969	17.3
Tehama	56,800	10,709	18.9
Trinity	13,050	2,219	17.0
Tulare	377,500	102,181	27.1
Tuolumne	55,200	6,373	11.5
Ventura	773,500	74,425	9.6
Yolo	173,500	22,559	13.0
Yuba	60,800	15,380	25.3

/1/ Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.

Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties,  
May 2001.

State of California, Department of Health Services, MEDSSUM File, October 2001.

**TABLE 2**  
**MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**  
**AVERAGE MONTHLY FEE-FOR-SERVICE ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,**  
**USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001**

COUNTY	AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY USERS/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROVIDER PAYMENTS/1/	USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES/1/	COST PER USER/1/
TOTAL	2,523,950	1,667,211	\$948,269,095	66.1	\$ 568.78
Alameda	85,453	61,731	38,096,077	72.2	617.13
Alpine	191	83	24,307	43.5	292.86
Amador	2,553	1,587	748,819	62.2	471.85
Butte	39,056	21,858	10,449,575	56.0	478.07
Calaveras	4,990	2,608	1,153,811	52.3	442.41
Colusa	3,503	1,794	737,562	51.2	411.13
Contra Costa	41,535	29,669	18,544,221	71.4	625.04
Del Norte	6,230	3,495	1,472,726	56.1	421.38
El Dorado	10,496	5,843	2,929,183	55.7	501.31
Fresno	80,264	70,423	29,559,603	87.7	419.74
Glenn	5,023	2,728	1,135,867	54.3	416.37
Humboldt	22,193	13,350	6,351,118	60.2	475.74
Imperial	38,215	20,496	7,869,758	53.6	383.97
Inyo	2,426	1,352	718,188	55.7	531.20
Kern	63,580	44,841	20,461,001	70.5	456.30
Kings	22,984	12,799	4,905,336	55.7	383.26
Lake	12,885	7,929	3,645,156	61.5	459.72
Lassen	4,232	2,365	1,105,601	55.9	467.48
Los Angeles	924,088	602,455	363,988,958	65.2	604.18
Madera	25,866	14,281	5,723,567	55.2	400.78
Marin	10,902	6,157	4,096,342	56.5	665.31
Mariposa	1,849	1,130	584,291	61.1	517.07
Mendocino	15,356	9,345	4,296,260	60.9	459.74
Merced	57,511	26,779	9,207,403	46.6	343.83
Modoc	1,931	1,072	742,657	55.5	692.78
Mono	725	350	177,607	48.3	507.45
Nevada	6,259	3,741	2,282,795	59.8	610.21
Placer	14,773	8,429	4,924,953	57.1	584.29
Plumas	2,522	1,572	1,009,714	62.3	642.31
Riverside	98,251	65,611	38,111,526	66.8	580.87
Sacramento/2/	82,915	57,065	30,975,928	68.8	542.82
San Benito	4,840	2,551	1,195,492	52.7	468.64
San Bernardino	138,712	92,273	53,231,953	66.5	576.90
San Diego/2/	139,890	110,016	67,923,406	78.6	617.40
San Francisco	69,877	52,855	36,169,675	75.6	684.32
San Joaquin	47,539	36,314	18,896,357	76.4	520.36
San Luis Obispo	22,732	12,523	6,256,914	55.1	499.63
Santa Clara	86,167	55,616	40,287,492	64.5	724.39
Shasta	31,214	18,398	9,598,531	58.9	521.72
Sierra	329	202	201,340	61.4	996.73
Siskiyou	8,312	4,674	1,982,573	56.2	424.17
Sonoma	33,221	18,406	17,318,668	55.4	940.93
Stanislaus	57,332	35,349	15,754,007	61.7	445.67
Sutter	13,957	7,481	3,664,433	53.6	489.83
Tehama	10,699	6,388	2,995,295	59.7	468.89
Trinity	2,217	1,329	745,553	59.9	560.99
Tulare	57,014	43,898	25,491,270	77.0	580.69
Tuolumne	6,362	4,059	2,111,172	63.8	520.12
Ventura	74,387	38,071	16,901,224	51.2	443.94
Yolo	15,013	9,768	3,661,249	65.1	374.82
Yuba	15,379	8,435	3,240,742	54.8	384.20
Not Reported	0	5,667	4,611,839	0.0	813.81

/1/ County Organized Health System (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data. Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of data is limited for Sacramento County and San Diego County.

Most Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service. Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Services and Expenditures Month of Payment Report.

State of California, Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Eligibles File, January, 2002 Month of Eligibility.